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FLASHBACK

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FLASHBACK

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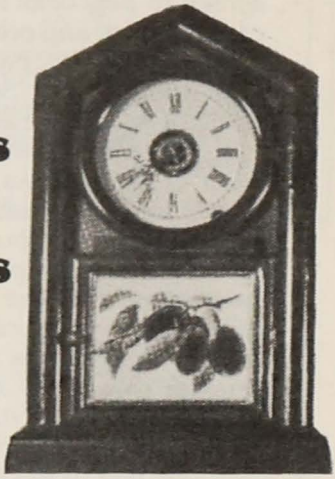
A Backward Look in Time

Seth Thomas Clocks in Northwest Arkansas

Written and transcribed
by Bernice Brown Freeze



Typical Seth Thomas Clock of the type sold by Rice, Fitzgerald and Pearce.

Early timepieces are still cherished by many who have been fortunate to have one from Grandpa's fireplace mantle. Have you wondered how so many Seth Thomas clocks, first made in 1813, happened to be in North Arkansas and Southern Missouri as early as 1848? It began when A. G. Rice, a merchant and landholder, Joseph B. Fitzgerald, a business partner of Rice, and Wesley Pearce, an available bachelor and brother-in-law of Fitzgerald, all of McMinn County, Tennessee, obtained a contract from the Seth Thomas Company in Plymouth Hollow, Connecticut. The contract tells a story:

Memorandum of contract made and entered into this the 25th day of September 1848 by and between A G Rice, Joseph B Fitzgerald of the one part and Wesley Pearce of the other part all of the County of McMinn State of Tennesee witneseth that the above parties have this day formed a partnership for the purpose of selling Clocks in the State of Missouri on the following terms. Wesley Pearce on his part agrees to superintend the selling and sell himself when not otherwise engaged in the handling necessary to carry on the business and to transact all busines that the interst of the Company may require in Missouri or any other place that may be [?], to collect all debts, keep an accurate account of all expences and sales of Clocks & furnish the said Rice & Fitzgerald with the same as often as they may require without pay until it may be necessary to go to collecting and the said Pearce is to do the collecting and is to have a reasonable compensation for his time, the said Pearce

agrees to pay over to said Rice & Fitzgerald their share of cash notes or any other property at any time, the said Rice & Fitzgerald on their part have ordered one hundred and ninety eight Clocks from Seth Thomas every two months in the name of A. C. Rice and the first shipment now made [?] to New Orleans for which we are mutually bound for the payment of said Clocks, and all other debts necessary for the benefit and use of said Company. We have also signed some pedlers and if the busines will justify expect to higher more for which the Company am bound to pay, it is also expresly understood that the said Pearce is to give timely notice to discontinuing the ordering of Clocks & the said Pearce is not to quit said buisnes until all property is disposed of and the busines wound up all [Sales?] are to be equally bourn [by] the said Rice & Fitzgerald one half and the said Wesley Pearce the other half and the proffits to be equally divided if any one half to the said Rice & Fitzgerald and the other half to Wesley Pearce, but it is expresly understood that befor any division of proffits that all debts contracted for said Company shall be first paid.

In testimony wherof we have hereunto set our hands and seals day and date first above written

Signed — A.G. Rice

Witneses J.B. Fitzgerald
Wm H. Goddard Wesley Pearce
R.E. Smith

I certify the above to be a true copy

Mailed to Mr. Wesley Pearce A.G. Rice
Booneville
Missouri from ATHENS TE Oct. 10 postmark

It proved a very successful venture from records kept by Alfred, one of Wesley's brothers, recruited into the business in Arkansas in 1849. From 25 September 1848 to 25 September 1849, 241 clocks had been sold in Southern Missouri and Northern Arkansas. Delivery invoices show from which points the clocks were shipped and to whom they were delivered:

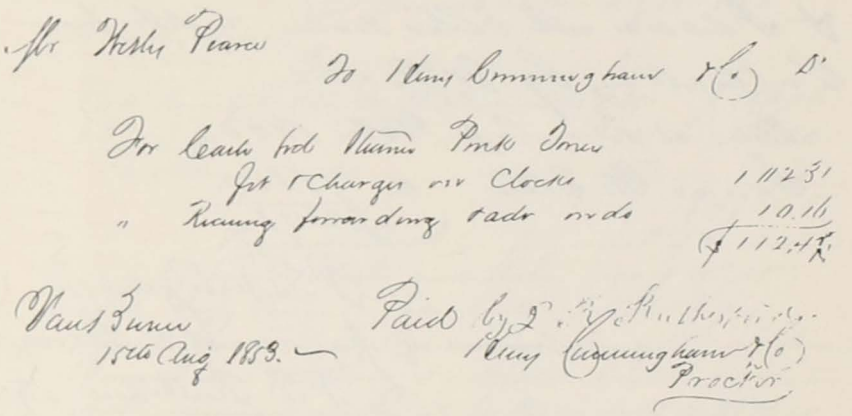
Mr. Wesley Pearce
To Henry Cunningham Co.
For Cash and [?]

Frt. & Charges on Clocks $112.31
For reciving forwarding & adv [?] 10.16

$122.47
Paid by J.R. Rutherford
Henry Cunningham & Co.
Proctor

Van Buren
15th, August 1853

(See Original Figure A)



Original Figure A

Oct. 28th, 1853

Mr. Ruben C

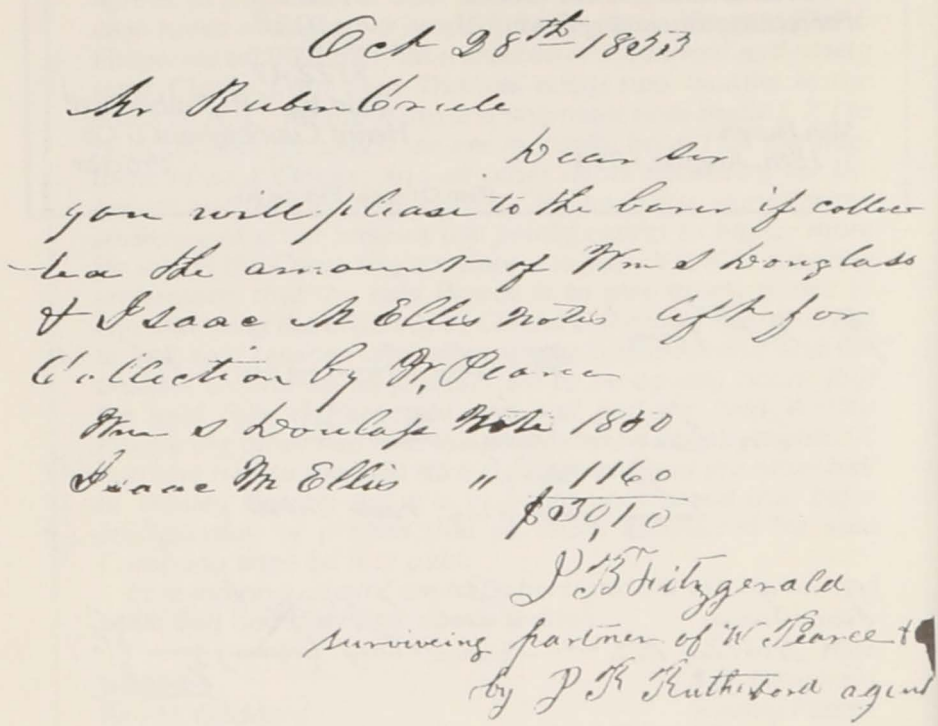
Dear Sir

You will please to the [?] if collected the amount of Wm. S. Douglass & Isaac M. Ellis notes left for collection by W. Pearce

Wm. S. Donlap [Douglass?] note 18.50
Isaac M. Ellis " 11.60
$ 30.10

J.B. Fitzgerald
surviving partner of W. Pearce &
by J.R. Rutherford agent

(See Original Figure B)


Oct 28th 1853

Mr Ruben Cruse

Dear Sir

you will please to the favor if collect
for the amount of Wm S Douglass
& Isaac M Ellis notes left for
Collection by Pr Pearce

Wm S Douglas Note 1840
Isaac M Ellis " 1160
$3000

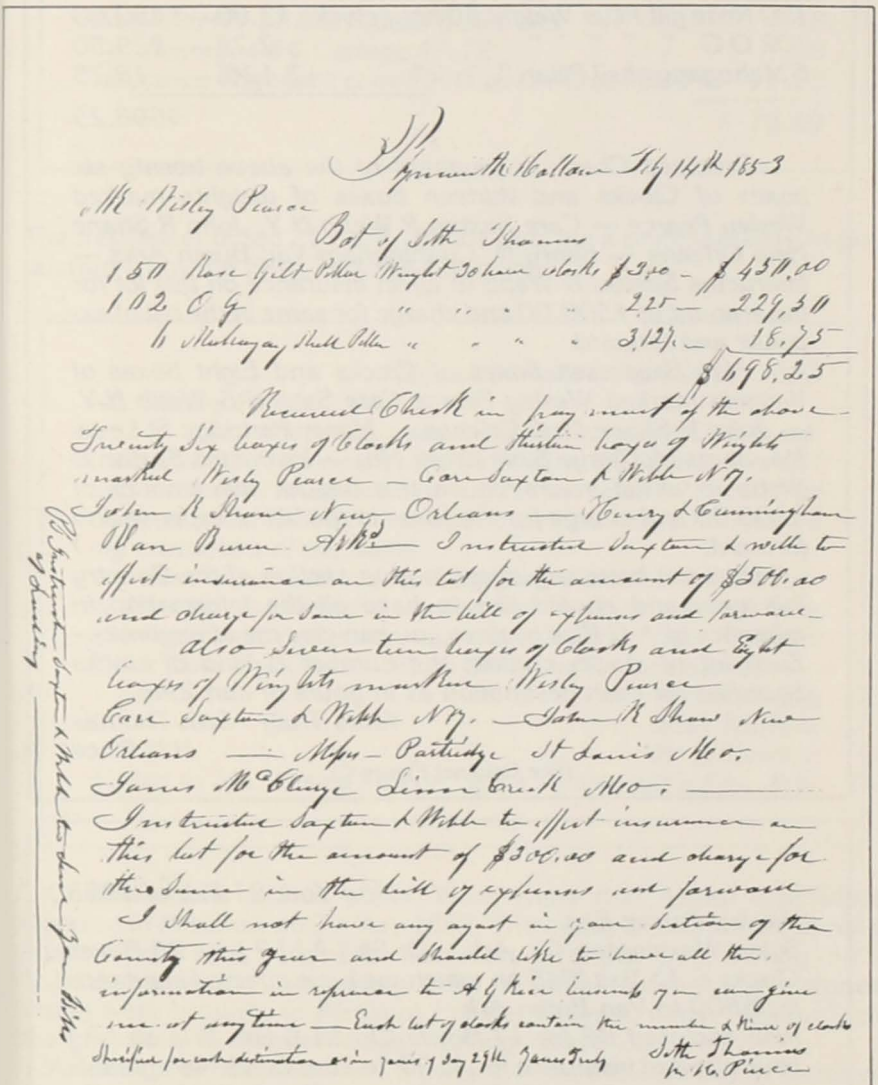
P B Fitzgerald
surviving partner of W Pearce
by P K Rutherford agent

Original Figure B

I should point out agents were recruited to sell clocks in neighborhoods around rural communities. Essel Upshaw, one such agent, gives an account of a transaction he was engaged to handle 10 October, 1849:

> *Received of Wesley Pearce a order to Wesen, Ringgold & Lyon Batesville Ark. for ten boxes of Clocks & 2 doz. of waits which I promas to deliver to R W Jamerson 4 miles North of Pleasant Prarie Green Co. Mo. by 3 days of November next for which the said Pearce pays me $18.00 [?] paid in hand [?] be given me a order for Mrs. Easter Jamerson this 10th day of Oct. 1849*
>
> *Essel Upshaw*

How did they get clocks from Connecticut to Arkansas? Letters dated 14 February 1853 and 21 February 1853 give an account. Please read:



Spencer Balloon Feby 14th 1853

Mr Wesley Pearce

Bot of Seth Thomas

150	Rose Gilt Pillar Weight 30 hour clocks	@ 3.00	$450.00
102	O G " " " "	2.25	229.50
6	Mahogany Shelf Pillar " " " "	3.12½	18.75
			$698.25

Received Check in payment of the above Twenty Six boxes of Clocks and thirteen boxes of Weights marked Wesley Pearce — Care Sayton & Webb N.Y. John R Shaw New Orleans — Henry L Cunningham Van Buren Ark.d — I instructed Sayton & Webb to effect insurance on this bill for the amount of $500.00 and charge for same in the bill of expenses and forwarde— also Seventeen boxes of Clocks and Eight boxes of Weights marked Wesley Pearce Care Sayton & Webb N.Y. — John R Shaw New Orleans — Mess.rs Partridge St Louis Mo.; James McClunge Lisbon Creek Mo.; ——— I instructed Sayton & Webb to effect insurance on this bill for the amount of $300.00 and charge for the same in the bill of expenses and forwarde I shall not have any agent in your section of the Country this year and should like to have all the information in reference to A/C's &c. you can give me at any time — Each box of clocks contain the number & Name of clocks Shipped for each destination as in yours of May 23d James Brady Seth Thomas per W. Pierce

W. Instructed Sayton & Webb to effect Ins. on this bill of Lading

Original Figure C

Plymouth Hollow Feb. 14th. 1853

Mr. Wesley Pearce

[?] of Seth Thomas

150 Rose gilt Pillar Weight 30 hour clocks	*$3.00—*	*$450.00*
102 O G " " " " "	*2.25—*	*229.50*
6 Mahogany shell Pillar " " " "	*3.12%—*	*18.75*
		$698.25

Received Check in payment of the above twenty six boxes of Clocks and thirteen boxes of weights marked Wesley Pearce — Care Saxton P Webb N Y. John R Shane New Orleans — Henry H. Cunningham Van Buren Arks — Instructns Saxton & Webb to effect insurance on this lot for the amount of $500.00 and charge for same in the bill of expense and forward.

Also Seventeen boxes of Clocks and Eight boxes of Weights marked Wesley Pearce Care Saxton & Webb N.Y. — John R Shane New Orleans — Moser Partridge St Louis Mo. Jams McClurye Sims Creek Mo. — Instructns Saxton & Webb to assist insurance on this but for the amount of $300.00 and charge for the same in the bill of expense and forward.

I shall not have any agent in your section of the Country this year and should like to have all the information in reference to A G Rice busines you can give me at anytime — Each lot of clocks contain the number & kind of clocks Specified for cash destination as in yours of Jan 29th.

Yours Truly Seth Thomas
H N Pince

(See Original Figure C)

New York 21 Feb of 1853

Wesley Pearce Esq.
Sylva Washington Co. Ark Dr Sir [?] [?] for 26 Boxes Clocks & 13 Bxs PMS on which we have effected insurance for $500 to Van Buren Ark
Also enclosed BP for 17 Boxes Clocks & Bxs Wts on [?] have effected insurance for $300. to Linn Creek Mo agreable to instructions from Mr Seth Thomas Plymouth Hollow Ct. below we give Items of Exps.

Yours Respectfully
Saxtns & Wells

Freight to NY 26 Boxes Clocks 13 Bxs Wts	*$ 6.83*
Postage 06¢ Cartage $1.63	*1.69*
Ins Charges with Coms. $500 to Lins Creek a [?]	*27.50*
	$ 36.02
Freight to NY 17 Bxs Clocks & Bxs Wts	*4.46*
Postage 06¢ Cartage $1.12	*1.18*
Insurance Chge with com $300. to Lin Creek 3/4%	*11.25*
	$ 16.89

The next letter dated 21 April 1853 is quoting a price increase in production from the Seth Thomas Company:

Plymouth Hollow Aprl 21st, 1853

Mr. Wesley Pearce

Sir. Materials used in manufacturing Clocks advanced to such an extent that on the first day of this Month I was compelled to advance on my former rates 12½ cents pr clock at which price I now hold them and have notified all my customers of the same.

Also I have within a few days associated others with me in the manufacture of the same and the business will here after be conducted under the name of the "Seth Thomas Clock Co". The Clocks will be the same as heretofore.

Yours Respy
Seth Thomas
for E Thomas

Mailed to Mr. Wesley Pearce, Sylva, Washington Co., Ark.

Complications altered plans. Word came that Alfred died while working in Missouri on 30 May 1852. The cause of death was typhoid fever. Wesley took care of the necessary arrangements, writing family back home and purchasing a set of Italian marble tomb stones which were brought to Pleasant Prairie, Green County, Missouri for the grave site at Timber Ridge Meeting House Cemetery.

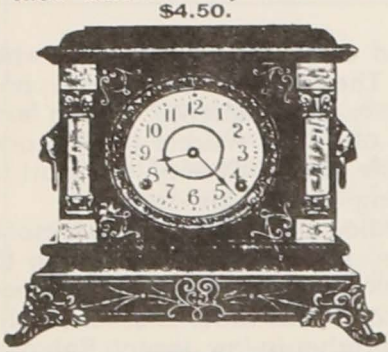
Another loss occured when Wesley died on the 20th day of October 1852. Joseph B. Fitzgerald was the only surviving partner in the business of selling Seth Thomas clocks as A.G. Rice died of typhoid fever in Tennessee on 7 October 1852. At this time, another brother of Wesley's, Daniel Pearce, and their brother-in-law Joseph Robinson

Rutherford, were commissioned to help close out the business as clocks were arriving to be delivered and collected for. After the last shipments were attended to, a Seth Thomas letter tells us no plans were made to issue another contract for selling clocks in this territory, which means our earliest clocks were here because of the effort of Rice, Fitzgerald, and Pearce from 1848 to 1853.

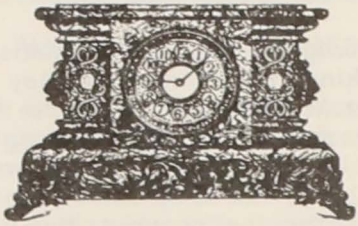
A direct line with the past to the present is as follows: Joseph Robinson Rutherford first married Louisa Evaline Pearce, sister of Alfred, Wesley, and Daniel. Four children were born to this union: Alfred, Mary, Lewis, and Lenora. They lived for a time at Sylva* in Washington County, Arkansas, then moved to Benton County. Evaline died in September, 1861, and is buried in Norwood Cemetery in Washington County. Joseph then returned to McMinn County, Tennessee and married Tennessee Snodgrass. They returned to Arkansas and four more children were born: William, Alice, Elizabeth, and Simmie. During the Civil War, Joseph Rutherford served with the Union Army near Rhea's Mill in Washington County. He is also buried at Norwood Cemetery. Joseph and Evaline's daughter Lenora married Henry Wheeler Wright and had four children: Maurice, Ethel, Pearl, and Artie. Ethel married William David Brown and had five children: Ervin, Bernice, Helen Louise, John, and Charles Wayne. Bernice married Robert T. LaFollette and had two children: Robert Jr. and Olivia. A second marriage for Bernice was to Henry Clarence Freeze. At this time, Bernice, a widow, lives in Bella Vista, Arkansas and is the writer of this account. My source material is old family letters preserved by Joseph Rutherford which I obtained. All the above mentioned men were land holders in Benton and Washington Counties, contributing greatly to making Northwest Arkansas a better place to live. I am happy to record this part of their story in more than land deeds and county records.

* Later, Cincinnati.

Rich Imitation Onyx Clock for $4.50.



Beautiful Mantel Clock for $5.75



In 1900, Sears, Roebuck & Co. advertised Seth Thomas Clocks for mail order purchase.

Queries

HOWARD, LITTLE, KELM, BROWN - I would like to exchange information with anyone researching the above names. They lived in Washington, Sebastian, Polk, Scott and Benton Counties. The John Howards came to Washington County from Illinois and were in road and railway bed construction. Littles were farmers in Washington County by 1850. I believe the Browns were earlier and Ralph Kelm came in from Missouri and worked on railroads. He died in Benton County about 1907. Please contact: Mrs. Betty Goodwin, 3 Leisure Lane, Houston TX 77024.

DRAIN, DRANE, DRAINE - Does anyone have access to back issues of the *Madison County Arkansas Genealogist* magazines they would share with me? Particularly Vol. II, pp.39, 70, 118, and 121; and Vol. III pp. 34 and 102. I am also interested in:
JORDAN, CARR, MERRYMAN, HOUSE, SCOTT, HESTER, DODD AND CONNER - Does anyone have access to Clayton's *History of Davidson County Tennessee*? The above names are on the index. Contact me before getting prints. I will furnish reasonable amount for your time as well as copy work and postage. Contact: Mrs. John R. Dockery, Route 6, Box 180, Fayetteville, AR 72701.

CLARY - I am interested in any information concerning the Clary family in Washington County, 1840-1870. Specifially, Bluford Lawrence Clary b ca. 1822, m Nancy C.M. Tate. In 1850 census, Illinois Twp. Contact: Jeanne B. Clary, 11710 Verada Ave., Granada Hills, CA 91344.

KELTON - I will be happy to share information on Stephen Smith Kelton who, with his wife, Catherine Seaton Kelton and three children, came to Arkansas from Greene Co. Tennessee in the early 1870s. His father was James Kelton, b 1740 Massachusetts. Mother was Sarah Merrifield. Contact: Nellie Kelton Vaughan, 414 E. Comanche, McAlester, OK 74501.

FRALEY, NAPIER, KILPATRICK, REED - I would very much like to contact any relatives or friends who have information on Mettie Lou Fraley (Betty Lou) b April 2, 1925 in Mountainburg d Oct. 16, 1953 Wichita, KS; Roy Calvin Fraley, b Oct. 18, 1896 Hazel Valley, m June 1920 d April 13, 1976 in Wichita, KS; Tennie Bell Kilpatrick b April 4, 1904 Mountainburg d May 21, 1963 in Wichita, KS; Thomas Eli Fraley b Aug. 17, 1875 Hazel Valley; Samuel Fraley 1823-1903 and Rebecca Reed. Lourana Napier, b Feb. 1, 1874 bur. in Hazel Valley or Fayetteville 1956; McCater C. Napier, 1843-1899, and his wife Patience; Newton Sherman Kilpatrick and his wife Prudy Melinda who is rumored to be a full blooded Indian. Contact: Edith Bishop, Box 549, Leesburg, GA 31763. *(Cont. on page 37)*

More Information on the **Ben Johnson and George Lewis Homes** in the Middle Fork Valley and on the activities of Ben Johnson during the Civil War:

Dear Fellow Members:

I was delighted to find the article about the Johnson residence in the Flashback, Vol. 30, No. 4.

On page 18 there is a photograph of the George W. Lewis home. When our family moved from Texas in 1951, we bought this place, and spent twenty-four years there. The house had been mistreated through the years, but again is a lovely home.

I had studied the deed at length and also learned all I could of its history. Our postman, Mr. Walter Smith, told me about the wedding incident during the Civil War. He was related to the Lewis family.

According to information I have found, the original house was almost exactly like the houses in Middle Fork and in Johnson. In fact, the Lewis house was the model. The lower floor plan was exactly as the plan pictured on page 15 of Flashback.

In 1925 this place was bought by the Cumby family of Oklahoma. When they bought it, the rooms at the back were still intact (dining room, kitchen and long porch). The second floor was already gone by this date. Mr. Cumby took the room off of the back, and also widened the center front hall to make another room across the front. This information was given to me by Mrs. Floyd Smith who presently lives on the farm directly adjoining the Lewis place on the south. She was Zella Cumby before she married, and came with her parents from Oklahoma (Sapulpa). Cumby was told by "old timers" that the house was a two story one. Mr. F. M. McConnell related that the wedding supper was hidden in the "loft" or second floor.

Another note about Mr. Burton Benjamin Johnson, who was born 5 December 1877. I do not remember the exact summer, but either 1968 or 1969, a car came up our drive one Sunday afternoon. A lady came to the door and said she had her father, Ben Johnson, in the car. She said he wanted to visit for a while and drink some water from the old spring. Of course, they were more than welcome. During the course of the visit Mr. Johnson said, "I was born in this house. My grandparents lived here." Lettie Johnson must have gone to her mother's house for the birth of her son.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Stanley (Faye Polk) Saunders
Elkins, Ark.

Civil War Guerrillas

by W. J. Lemke*

A feature of the war in southwest Missouri and northwest Arkansas that has received little attention from historians is that the fighting, after the battle of Prairie Grove in December, 1862, was chiefly guerrilla warfare. Except for Cabell's attack on Fayetteville in April, 1863, and Price's return from his Missouri raid, there were no regular units of the Confederate army in this area. The fighting from 1863 to 1865 — and there was much of it — was done by independent companies that were out of touch with their headquarters and that fought on their own. They were motivated, so they said, by a desire to free their communities from the "invader." Sometimes, the "invader" was their next-door neighbor. Only a dozen miles separated the homes of Tuck Smith, Confederate guerrilla chieftain, and Ben Johnson, Federal partisan. Smith lived on Richland Creek and Johnson on Middle Fork of White River, both in Washington County, Ark.

At this late date it is not possible to document guerrilla activity in this area. There were independent companies operating on both sides. Southern families have handed down tales of the activities of such Federal partisans as Ben Johnson and Jacob Yoes. Descendants of Northern sympathizers still remember the fear inspired by such Confederate independent companies as those led by Buck Brown and Tuck Smith. Both Brown and Smith sleep their last long sleep in

---

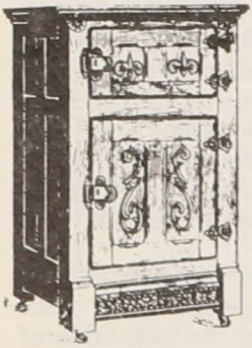
Editor's Note: *Flashback* is happy to share the preceding letter with our readers and also happy to report C. Allan Brown's article on the Johnson homes *(Flashback*, Nov., 980) won the Arkansas Historical Association's prize for best article in a county ournal in 1980. The award was given at the A.H.A. Annual Awards Banquet in Eureka Springs, April 10, 1981.

The above excerpt is from an article on Ben Johnson as a Civil War guerrilla, written by W. J. Lemke and originally published in his "Lore" column in the *Ozark's Mountaineer*, March, 1962.

Washington County — Buck Brown in the Thornbury graveyard near the Benton County line, and Tuck Smith in the Smith family burying ground south of Goshen. Both men were called "Captain", although neither had a regular Confederate army commission.

As for the Federal independent leaders, Ben Johnson was probably the most feared. Mothers used his name to frighten their children — "Ben Johnson will get you." His band had a wicked reputation among the folks of Washington, Madison, Franklin, and Crawford counties. Jacob Yoes, although enrolled in the First Arkansas Cavalry USA, did most of his fighting as head of an independent company, ranging from Van Buren to Clarksville and in Benton and Washington counties. He was once captured by Confederate troops but later paroled. After the war he learned that his army record showed him as a deserter while he was a Confederate prisoner. He took legal means to correct the record.

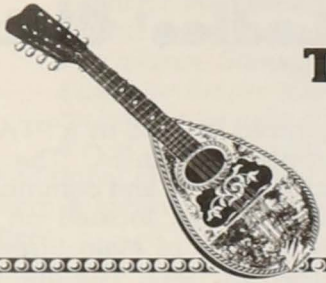
The 1900 Sears, Roebuck & Co. Catalog advertised these items for sale to mail order customers. Ah! the good old days!



"Michigan Refrigerator, Extra Large Size, Apartment House Style" Manufactured of the very best kiln dried ash lumber, beautifully finished, has solid brass locks, finished surface hinges, patent drip cup....
Only **$15.00**

"Our **$1.80** 32 Caliber Revolver"
Nickle Plated!!

"Our Famous **$6.95** Carriage" The frame is made of seasoned maple, mitered, glued, screwed and plugged at joints. The upholstering is a good quality domestic three color velour cloth, trimmed with handsome cords and tassels.... Parasol is sateen with flounced ruffle, valenciennes lace edge.



The Gypsies

by Lloyd McConnell

Around the turn of the century it was not uncommon to see a band of gypsies traveling through rural Arkansas. They were a colorful clan, dressed in silks, beads, head wraps and ornaments. There were always children, dark skinned, barefooted, with black eyes.

Sometimes they had a magic lantern with which slides and some moving pictures could be shown at night. It was the fore-runner of the modern picture show. Country folks gathered around the camp in the evening to watch the colorful figures, to see the picture machine, and to watch the dancing bear, almost always part of a gypsy show. Spectators pitched small coins to the children. If the gypsies camped near the home of a farmer, it was likely the man spent the night awake to see that nothing of his was stolen or carried away.

Some ninety years ago a band of gypsies camped on Evansville Creek in southwest Washington County. That night it rained heavily, and small streams gushing down the mountainsides sent the creek into flood stage. The entire camp was washed away, teams, wagons, harness, the magic lantern, and even some of the gypsies. A money box was found sometime later by small boys swimming in the creek. The dancing bear escaped and was never found.

Kind hearted country folk gathered around the disaster area, searched the stream bed for bodies and offered food and clothing to the survivors. That is why, in walking through a cemetery near Evansville one day, I came upon some sandstone markers bearing the names of Dina George, a wife; John George, 2 years 10 months; Kee George; and Mary George, 7 years 8 months, whose bodies had been recovered from the stream bed.

Since Arkansas was once known as the Bear State, it would not have been impossible for Mr. Dancing Bear to have survived in the mountains of eastern Oklahoma and western Arkansas. In those days the livestock ran outside in the woods, and were gathered up in the fall, before winter set in. Perhaps Mr. Dancing Bear found some of his kind, even set up a new family in the rugged hills. Who knows?

A Quilting Tradition: The Centerpoint Ladies' Club

by Cinda Baldwin*

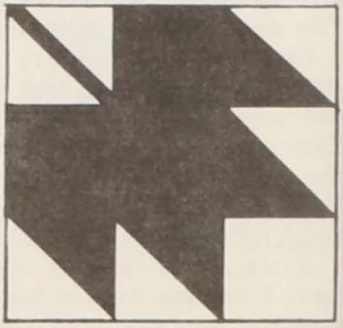
The Centerpoint Ladies' Club was organized in 1935 as a PTA for the one-room schoolhouse at Centerpoint, Arkansas. The old building, which was used for a schoolhouse, church, and community meeting place, was deeded around 1825. It was located on the Centerpoint Road about a mile and a half south of Main Street in Prairie Grove. The original building burned in 1941. The one that replaced it was similar to the old building, except that it was not raised up off the ground as the original had been. In the 1950's two Sunday school rooms were added onto the back, along with a choir loft. The building no longer served as a schoolhouse because the schools had been consolidated. This reorganization plan provided for the transferral of children from the Centerpoint Community to the Prairie Grove school

Mrs. Hester Mobley, an original member of the Centerpoint Club said that the group was organized "just to help one another". The group originally met in a member's home once a month, on the second Thursday. Each member brought a covered dish, and a small gift for the hostess. The meeting lasted all day. Mrs. Lorena Faddis described the activities.

> *When we went to their house we'd do whatever they wanted to do. If they had a quilt up, we'd help them quilt. If they wanted to put up rags, we'd help 'em do that, or if they wanted to piece 'em, sometimes we'd do that. We went down to one woman's house and worked in her yard.*

The major fund-raising activity for the club was serving dinner at sales (auctions). The following is a description of this and other related activities.

> *We had a little money. Our club dues was 10¢ a month, and we'd get what we had in our treasury and maybe buy buns and coffee, or tea, or cold drinks. We used to serve bottle drinks a lot at sales. And then we'd all make maybe two or three pies each, and sell them. And if anybody left (the community) we'd have a supper for them. If anybody got married, we gave 'em*



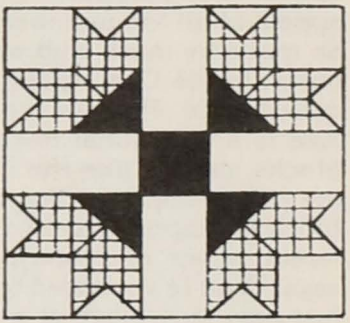
Maple Leaf Pattern †

* Cinda Baldwin, an anthropology student at the University of Arkansas, is completing an honor's thesis this spring (1981) on quilting in Northwest Arkansas.

a shower, or if there was a new baby coming, we gave them a shower. And we used to, a long time ago, have pie suppers at Church for Christmas programs. I mean, to buy treats for the children. Sometimes we'd have a cake walk. They'd have a cake for the prettiest girl and a jar of pickles for the lovesick couple, and a cake of soap for the man with the dirtiest feet. It cost so much, you know, to vote for 'em.

Additional club activities included aiding burn-out victims by giving them a shower, raising money for them, and by making quilts for them.

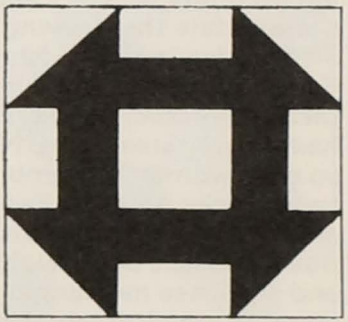
The ability to make quilts played an important role in the Centerpoint Ladies' Club. Most of the members learned to quilt from their grandmothers. Several remember carding cotton by hand for use as batting or filler. Mrs. Epley shared her experiences as a young girl with me.



Goose Tracks Pattern †

We lived in the country and we all worked and learned how to do things when we was growing up. We raised the cotton and then they took it to the gin and had it ginned. My mother carded the cotton and we worked it, grandma did, and I did before I was grown. You just laid the batts close together. They'd start on one side of the quilt and lay a row of batts all the way across. The batts are just as long as your card. You put your lining in the frames first. Then you start laying these batts. You would lay them right close together and then start in and lay another row until you got that row done.

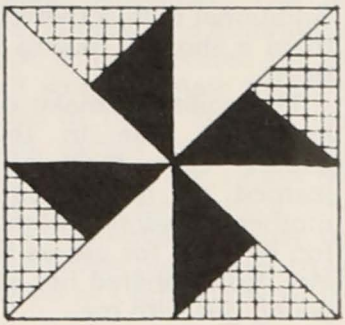
Quilting was a natural choice for a club activity because twelve women at the most, working on two "reaches" or rows at a time, could comfortably sit at a quilting frame. The time required for one woman to complete a quilt would be weeks or even months if she worked on it a little bit each day. A group of twelve women, however could complete a quilt in two days time. No wonder one member was taught, as she put it, "to leave room for a neighbor to quilt of an afternoon".



Churn Dash Pattern †

The quilting bee, as it was called in nineteenth century America, fulfilled an important social need as well as a practical one. Popular

discussion around the quilting frame included news of the day and comparing children or grandchildren. Mrs. Faddis pointed out, "We share ideas about different things. We share recipes and things like that. Maybe even exchange dress patterns." Quilt pattern sources for the group include the *Washington County Observer,* the *Kansas City Star,* a quilt fair in Murphy Park in Springdale, and a craft shop on Mt. Etna. Sometimes the scraps of material left over from another project suggest an original pattern to the experienced quilter. One particular quilt pattern may appeal to all the members. This one will be made by more club women than any other. In the Centerpoint Club the quilt called Odd Fellows or Double-bitted Axe is a traditional favorite. The small blocks shaped like the blade of an axe are pieced together one at a time. Each block is supposed to be made from a different scrap of material. Mrs. Faddis says, "You're supposed to ask your friends for scraps of every design, just have one piece at a time. My grandmother had a quilt like this and my mother had a quilt like this and I had one and my daughter made one."



Windmill Pattern †

Today quiltmaking as an important fund-raising activity for the group. The money that the women receive for a quilt, averaging about $150 a quilt, is donated to worthy causes such as the March of Dimes, Red Cross, the local ambulance service, or King's Ranch (a boy's home in Morrow, Arkansas). Members have recently been working on quilts for the Centerpoint Church, which is being enlarged to accomodate the growing needs of the congregation.

Many lasting friendships have been made through the club. Mrs. Faddis showed me a friendship quilt which had the name of a club member on each block. The blocks were made out of sugar sacks and had been hostess gifts. Mrs. Faddis had asked for baskets of flowers, so each woman had embroidered a basket with her name under it onto a block. As Mrs. Faddis called out each name she commented about that person. "That's Mrs. Wilson. She died yesterday. She was one of the best neighbors I ever had. When our little girl was born and she'd see me hanging out clothes... see clothes on my line, she'd come get my lttle girl and take her up yonder to her house so I could get my washing done. That's when I was rubbing 'em on a washboard... and hunting up washing wood." When a member left the community she was given a plaque such as the following one given to Hester Mobley when she moved to Prairie Grove.

JUST FRIENDS

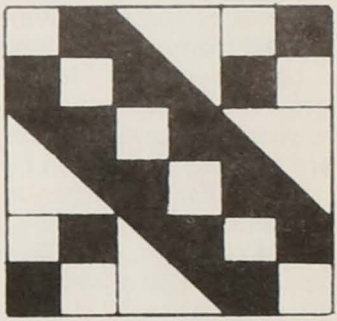
We missed you at the club meeting today. Surely we shall miss you and your family in all the good things of the community. In your going Centerpoint has lost and Prairie Grove has gained.

May the many things
You may put inside
This little gift we are giving you
Be as good and tender, too
As our love shall be for you,
Wherever you may abide.

Mrs. Rosa Barker
Mrs. Elizabeth Cann
Mrs. Tommie Crouch
Mrs. Lorena Faddis
Miss Faye Hamilton
Mrs. Fannie Hendricks
Mrs. Mary Mattison
Mrs. Ada Mulkey
Mrs. Lillie Smith
Mrs. Gladys Waggoner
Mrs. Claire Bell
Mrs. Clara Crawley
Mrs. Jennie Faddis
Mrs. Stella Hamilton
Miss Nona Hamilton
Mrs. Lura Jones
Mrs. Lois Moore
Mrs. Lavetta Reese
Mrs. Edith Thomas
Mrs. Maud Walker

The gift mentioned was a Dutch oven. The person that was leaving was given a handkerchief shower. I asked Mrs. Faddis about this practice. She said that the members thought that she'd be crying because she left, so each one gave her a handkerchief to cry in. Many of the names on the plaque are original members.

Sometimes a husband objected to his wife's participation in regular club activities. One woman's husband was said to have offered her five dollars if she would quit. I asked Mrs. Faddis if this was because the club took up too much of her time, but she replied that she thought they were "just oddballs".



Road to California Pattern †

When the club was first organized all of the members lived on farms in the Centerpoint community. But this was when the school was still in Centerpoint. After consolidation,

(Cont. on p. 26)

Shiloh Museum Covers History of Northwest Arkansas

The Shiloh Museum is a free, non-profit organization established by the City of Springdale in 1965. Its scope includes the broad history of the four counties of Northwest Arkansas — Washington, Benton, Madison, and Carroll. Its purpose is to serve the community by the collection, preservation, and interpretation of historical materials relating to the area through exhibits, guided tours, demonstrations, and lectures.

The name of the museum was derived from the original name of the settlement and church established c. 1840. The name was changed to Springdale when Shiloh made an application for a post office in 1872 and it was learned that there was already an Arkansas post office named Shiloh. The museum presently has three buildings. The main building is located at Johnson and Main streets in Springdale. It is on a plot of ground donated to the city for a town square with the stipulation that the property remain for public use. The building was constructed in 1927 and was used as a public library until 1966.

Behind the main building is a frame structure that has served as a general store and the Springdale post office. The structure was originally known as the John B. Steele store. It was moved from its original location and deeded to the museum in 1978. It is the oldest commercial building still standing in Springdale, built not long after the end of the Civil War. Another structure, a log cabin which was moved from Elm Springs where it once served as a stagecoach stop, is being restored. The Shiloh Museum is within a 32-acre tract which has been placed on the National Register of Historic Places as a historic district. Included in the district to the north and east of the museum are the Shiloh Church (1871) and the Shiloh Memorial Park.

The museum began in 1965 with the purchase of the Indian-lore collection of Judge W. G. Howard of Springdale. The collection consisted of some 10,000 Indian artifacts from the United States, Mexico, and Central America. With this foundation, the museum has grown to some 30,000 items which represent the history and heritage of Northwest Arkansas. Its photograph collection includes more than 1500 images and negatives of persons and scenes. The Vaughan-Applegate Collection of photographic equipment contains hundreds of items: cameras, glass slides, negatives, light meters, studio

cameras, lenses, and projectors. Of special importance are Hook's Camera Lucida (1740), the Edison Projecting Kinetoscope (1903), and the Becker Stereo Viewer (c. 1860). The collection is one of the largest and finest in the Southwest and shows the evolution of photography in the last 200 years.

Other important collections include almanacs, Bibles, toys, farm equipment, poultry industry equipment, medical instruments, pioneer furniture, kitchen utensils, hand tools, cooperage tools, and antique clothing.

The museum offers a variety of educational programs. Four large rooms contain exhibits which are changed frequently. Visitors may browse through the displays or take an informal, guided tour. School classes, clubs, and various organizations schedule general or special tours. Lectures and demonstrations are given using museum artifacts.

Long-range plans for The Shiloh Museum include the construction of a major permanent exhibit on the history of Northwest Arkansas and the construction of a new exhibit hall to house it. Pursuant to these plans, the staff and board of The Shiloh are acquiring adjacent property, doing research on the history of the area, acquiring appropriate artifacts, and planning for the actual exhibits. Plans call for the completion of the first stage of the permanent exhibit — relating to the architectural history of the area — to be completed by the end of this year.

The Shiloh Museum is governed by a 15 member board of trustees appointed by the Springdale City Council. The staff and volunteers carry on the day-to-day museum work, which includes conservation and preservation of artifacts, research on items, classification and cataloging materials, acting as guides or docents, and maintaining the necessary museum records. The board of trustees conducts general planning for the museum and establishes museum policy. Readers of *Flashback*, researchers, and the general public will find their understanding of Washington County history enhanced by visiting the Shiloh Museum and using its resources.

CORRECTION

Apologies are in order to Kaye and Larry Browne, their family and our readers. The very fine genealogical table on the Browne family published in the February *Flashback* contained two serious errors. Mr. and Mrs. L.L. Browne compiled the information, not Gayle Patterson, and the death date for Norma Rheem Hannon Browne should be 10 February 1975. Next time we will put on our stronger proof-reading glasses.

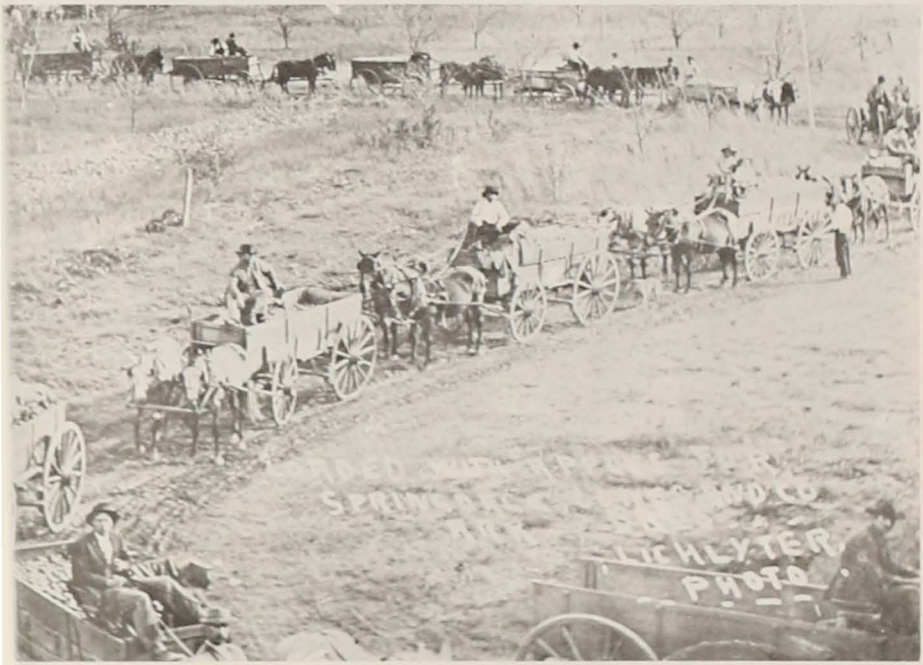
Springdale - April 28, 1904 - City Directors. (left to right) Seated: C.L. Thompson, Recorder; I.J. Lane, Mayor. Standing: C.G. Dodson, W.H. Searcy, B.F. Young, J.M. Hewitt, J.H. Myers, W.A. Graves, Newt Henson (nightwatch).

The Dolly Sitton Bentley Photographic Collection

Postcard view of Emma Ave., Springdale dated 1914.

Frisco train wreck near Springdale, May 9, 1912.

Wagons loaded w/apples for C. Jones & Co. (Lichlyter Photo)



Burke's Mine where radioactive ore was found - East of Springdale. (no date) ◄

Albert J. Gregg home, Springdale ▼

Post Office on Lynch Prairie near Springdale, circa 1833 ▼

▼ *Postcard of Berry House, dated 1908*

The Daniel Chapman Family

by Lyda Winn Pace

THE WALKER AND MARGARET CHAPMAN WINN FAMILY - The only available picture of any of the Daniel Chapman family is this photograph of Daniel's daughter Margaret (Maggie) and her husband Walker R. Winn and the couple's three daughters. Ethel the oldest m. Austin Yoes: offspring Wendell and Ellis Gray Yoes presently living in Fort Smith, Arkansas. The middle girl, Stella, never married. Dora, seated between her parents, m. Glen Duncan, had one daughter Ruby Glenn, m. Jack Ruble, lives in Lincoln, Nebraska. All those pictured here are now deceased and buried in the Baptist Ford Cemetery south of Greenland. The picture was taken in 1897.

Daniel Chapman was born in Arkansas in 1843, the son of Wilson and Sarah Chapman. The 1880 census shows that Daniel's widowed mother, who was living with him, was born in Kentucky. Her father and mother were born in South Carolina. It is likely that the family came to Arkansas from Kentucky. Other children of Wilson and Sarah Chapman were Pleasant, Mary Ann, and Charlotte. (Sarah Carroll Stockburger, wife of Alex Stockburger, was the daughter of Charlotte.) Another daughter was Cyrene, b. 1840, d. 1889, nicknamed "Teent", who lived all her life with her brother Daniel and their mother. Daniel's first wife, Sarah Jane Reed, was born in Arkansas in 1849. No available records show anything about her background. Legend says that there was Indian blood in that line of Reeds. It is quite possible that she was descended from the Cherokees who had been granted land in western Arkansas before they were forced to move farther west into Indian Territory. The

children of Daniel and his first wife, Sarah Jane Reed, were Margaret b. 1868, m. Walker Winn, d. 1933; Mary Ann, b. 1869, m. William Karnes; James, b.1873, m. Dora Wyatt, Dora, b. 1875 - no further record; Ada Bell, b. 1877, m. Charley Lewis.

After the death of his first wife, Daniel Chapman married a widow, Mrs. Sarah Elizabeth Mills Gilliland. She had two daughters by her first husband. The first daughter, Zora, b. 1874, married Clark French (He was a brick mason who built the Bank of Winslow in 1908, a beautiful structure of which Winslow was proud. It was destroyed by fire in the early hours of April 26, 1954.). Elizabeth Gilliand's second daughter, Edie, b. 1875, apparently died young; there is no further record of her. The children of Daniel and Elizabeth Gilliland Chapman were Elsie, b. 1881, m. Adam Isaac Fagala; Lavada, b. 1882, m. Charles Jones; Herman, b. 1886, m. first Ethel Skelton, second Nellie Boaz.

It is interesting to note how the family, so interwoven, accepted each other as one large family. "Granny", mother of Daniel, was so-called by the family and neighbors and friends alike. She was noted for making and selling eye salve. Sore eyes were prevalent in those days and "Granny's" salve was in demand by folk far and near. She never gave out the recipe, but she said she always used water from melted snow that fell in March. She would not use any other. She also said that she never knew a March when there wasn't enough snowfall for her to get water to make her salve.

Daniel was himself a doctor of sorts. He had a recipe and directions for the cure of skin cancer. He never gave out the recipe but handed it down to his son, Herman, who had many patients before his death. They used to travel great distances to visit him in his home office on Sugar Mountain. Neither man would apply the ointment to a cancer that had previously undergone a surgeon's knife. They claimed that surgery would sever the cancer "roots" and that they could not draw out the roots of such a cancer. Herman later sold the recipe to Mayo Brother's Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota.

Daniel's sister, Teent, was a peculiar person, but was accepted and loved along with the rest of the family. She never removed her bonnet. Once when a young, mischievous boy caught her unaware and yanked it off, a mass of beautiful long dark hair fell to her shoulders; but after her death when neighbors came to "lay her out" for burial they found her hair was clipped close to her head. The bonnet in which she died was replaced by a fresh one and thus she wore her bonnet to her grave.

During and immediately following the Civil War, the only schools in rural Washington County were subscription schools in which parents paid for each child attending. After the nearest such school to the Chapman family burned sometime after the Civil War, the Round Mountain Public School District was formed northeast of West

Fork. It was a large district extending to the Campbell Branch on the north, west to White River, and south to include part of what was later to become the Mineral Springs district. Mr. Chapman gave the land near his home for the erection of the school building. A large spring of water near the family residence furnished water for the school. Close by, down the hill was a large cave in which the children played. The cave was so large that in later years the man who owned the land stored his winter produce there. The spring and the cave were known respectivly as the School House Cave and Spring.

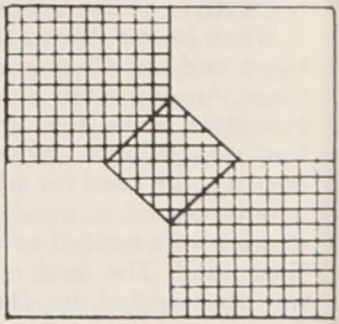
When Round Mountain school was opened, capable teachers were hired and the Chapman children received most of their education there. Among other pioneer families whose children attended Round Mountain were the Pruetts, Stockburgers, Rutherfords, Phelans, Carlisles, Wyatts, Privetts, and others. The one room school continued to be used for educational purposes until consolidation in the county closed it, at which time children from the south part of the district were bussed to West Fork: those in the north section went to Greenland. The land reverted to the Chapman estate: the building was dismantled by Daniel's son, Herman, and a grandson, Lee Karnes, and the lumber hauled away and used in the erection of other buildings. During its period of occupancy the school building was used for church services and other neighborhood activities. However, Daniel Chapman himself belonged to the original Baptist Church at the Baptist Ford and attended services there in the log church erected in 1870.

Records of the Civil War in the area make frequent references to Daniel Chapman's participation in numerous skirmishes. No record has been found to determine whether he was an officer or an uncommissioned enlisted man.

After the Chapman place was sold, it was known for many years as the Valentine Place. Now in 1981 the house is occupied by Reese Marshall. (The original Chapman house has long since been replaced by a more modern dwelling.) After the Chapman children had all left home and Daniel and his second wife, Elizabeth, were left alone and could no longer care for the farm, a plot of ground was given to them on the farm of his daughter, Mary Ann, and her husband, William Karnes, south of West Fork. A neat cottage was built for the aging couple and here they spent their last days. Both the Chapmans and many of their relatives and descendants are buried in the Baptist Ford Cemetery south of Greenland.

the children were bussed to Prairie Grove. Mrs. Faddis, who taught at the Centerpoint School, feels that after the schools were consolidated, many women lost interest in community activities. She is the only remaining member of the Centerpoint Club that actually lives in Centerpoint. The other members live in Prairie Grove.

Today the average age of the members is over sixty. It is difficult to recruit younger women because many of the younger women work outside the home. Also, most young women have not developed the patience and appreciation for quilting which is so important to the group.



Bow Tie Pattern †

Mrs. Faddis commented on the basic philosophy of the club.

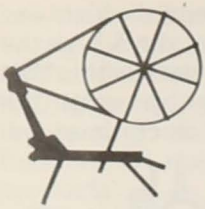
> *We try to practice the golden rule. As far as I know, we haven't had any ill feelings in our club. And I think that's wonderful. We're not a gossip club. Now some people tease us about going to a gossip club, but we're not gossipers. Now we tell things that's happened in the community. Some of us doesn't know. We give information, but as far as gossip, we're not a gossip club.*

† Illustrations are some of the favorite quilt patterns of the Centerpoint Ladies' Club.

Have you moved?
Are you going to move?

More importantly — have you given us your new address? You may have noticed that the envelope in which this *Flashback* was mailed no longer carries "Address Correction Requested". While this was a great help in keeping our addresses up to date, it was a terrible drain on the budget! Each time the U.S. Mail returns a *Flashback* with an address change, it costs us 65 cents. This will probably have increased by the time you get this issue.

So, from now on, if we don't have your new address, the post office will have been instructed to dump your *Flashback* without returning it to us. Sorry to have to do this, but rising costs for everything have made it absolutely necessary!



Crafts of the Pioneers of Washington County

by Bonita Musgrave*

Solving the Clothing Problem

The entire clothing problem was made possible by the use of hand-made cotton gins, the cards or carding machine, the spinning wheels, cracking reels, winding blades, and the loom, together with a pair of shears, a sewing needle, and a set of knitting needles - all of which were used with pride by early housewives in Washington County.

Spinning: There were two kinds of spinning wheels available, each of which had its place in textile making. The flax wheel used for spinning the flax fibers for the finer linens, and the old spinning wheel fashioned after the great wheel of the fourteenth century were both very common articles of household furnishings. Spinning was done to provide thread for all the clothing and other necessary articles of cloth. When we think of the amount of cloth needed to supply large families, we wonder at the strength and endurance of those patient and industrious mothers of old. They made hundreds and hundreds of yards of cloth each year, and they prided themselves always in having plenty of it.

Knitting: Knitting was the means of providing hose and laces for all members of the family. This undertaking within itself was no small task when we learn that each individual had to be supplied with at least four pairs of hose. "A pair of sox a day, when the other housework was done, and a part of the night borrowed was a pretty good day's work", was the remark of one resident[8] who has had much

8. Mrs. Christian, Cane Hill, Arkansas, 81 years old. A resident of Washington County ever since 1864.

experience in knitting. The writer had the pleasure of seeing one resident, a member of one of the families of the forties, in the active process of knitting her husband a pair of socks from home-raised and home-spun wool thread. She no doubt knows the value and quality of such products.

* This is an excerpt from Mrs. Musgrave's M.A. thesis (full name: *A Study of the Home and Local Crafts of the Pioneers of Washington County, Arkansas)*, written at the University of Arkansas in 1929. Her interviews with early Washington County residents make this a rare piece of documentation.

Knitted Lamp Wicks: A product of the knitting needle which was used in the homes at a relatively late date of pioneer days, was the knitted wick. These wicks were valuable household necessities that cost little and contributed much to the home up until the householder had easy access to the manufactured or commercial-made wick.

Lace-Making: Lace-making was a craft which resulted from the deft use of the hands and the knitting needles. Yards and yards of lace, in beautiful patterns, are still to be seen in many homes.

Although laces were not an absolute necessity, there was a sense of pride in trying to make attractive those things which would naturally appeal to the eye. For these aesthetic reasons, snow-white sheets and pillow cases made from home-spun were adorned with beautiful laces also made from home-spun (always meaning *home-spun thread.*) Certain articles of clothing also were beautifully trimmed with knitted laces. The quality of these laces is shown by the fact that housewives boast of the fact that laces on pillow cases, curtains and bedspreads in use in their homes today have worn out dozens of pillow cases and curtains. There is a simplicity about these knitted-lace patterns which appeals to the eye and denotes the painstaking skill of the early housewife.

Hand-made fringe is another production of the early days which deserves mention along with other forms of home-made trimming. The making of four-ply fringe was explained by an elderly resident[9] of

9. Mrs. Margaret Harriet Patterson, Lincoln, Arkansas. Age 82 years.

Lincoln, but the method employed was too intricate to be herein set forth. "Harnessing" a chair with a certain number of strands of home-spun and, then by the use of the simple impoverished strip of a shingle as wide as the width desired for the fringe, turned and raised and lowered, while winding on it the thread, which goes through the harness on the chair back, and from this shingle cutting a yard or more at one time of beautiful fringe, seemed simple enough to the maker. This process could continue until eight or ten yards of fringe were made in one piece.

Weaving: "Weaving" covered a very broad term with the early housewife, since all forms of cloth and clothing were the product of the loom. They had to make not only the cloth for clothing large families of ten and twelve children (and perhaps some slaves also),

but the bed-ticks, mattress covers, counterpanes, table linens, hand towels, blankets, sheets, pillow cases, coverlets, floor coverings, and cloth for numerous other uses. Is it not a wonder that they ever got through weaving? Three yards was considered a good day's work, but the quality of the product helped to solve the living problem. Economical responsibility rested primarily upon the quality of all products.

The spending of undue amounts of money on dress, and the frequent changing of fashions were not evident — not altogether because of economic needs, but due to the fact that other forms of cloth than home-spun and woven were not available without great expense. Those who were living during the forties, fifties or sixties, i.e., before the War between the States, can remember but little about any form of dress goods other than homespun, though, of course, some of them did have an occasional silk or other fine dress. They remember calico, one of the early forms of factory-produced cloth, as costing fifty and seventy-five cents per yard. Two "everyday" dresses and one for Sunday constituted the principal outer garments of the young lady's wardrobe. Clothing was not easily worn out, and no one objected to the "hand-me-down" garment from an older brother or sister.

Cotton Fabrics: There are still a few cotton pieces to be found which were woven in the forties, some in the fifties and some even later. Few pairs of pillow cases, hand towels, bedspreads, and table linens are available to show the skill in hand-woven materials. Underbed ticks are not uncommon which are also made from cotton thread of hand production. Beautiful patterns of cotton checks are to be seen in some treasured scrap of a dress or perhaps pieced into a quilt.

Woolen Fabrics: The most common cloth for the men's clothes was a form of woolen goods called jeans. This was woven in two and four ply fashion depending upon the number of treadles involved in the process. The chain or warp of all goods examined was of cotton, but this substance was difficult to detect in some of the pieces seen by the writer.

Shoe-Making

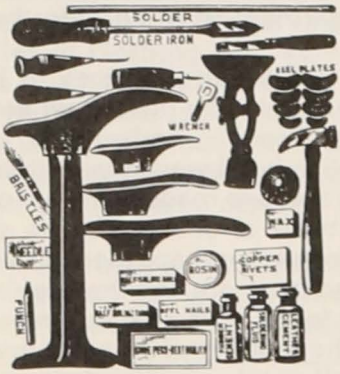
As a part of the clothing problem in early homes, shoe-making became a craft. There were but few persons who were skilled at this work, and, as a result, those few were kept very busy during winter, when there was a great demand for shoes. J. S. Campbell[12], who is

12. J. S. Campbell, age 82 years, Lincoln, Arkansas. A resident of Washington County for 70 years.

now 82 years old, made his first pair of shoes when only a boy eleven years of age. Although this particular pair was made in Tennessee, the following year the Campbell family moved to Arkansas, and at a

later date this gentleman became an active shoemaker for the public. During the War between the States, and for several years afterwards, he was busily engaged in this hand-power industry at his residence on Cane Hill. There were at this time only a few tanneries. The one at which Campbell obtained his leather was owned and operated by a man named "Tankersley".

The tanners as a rule tanned the hides "on the halves", that is to say, took their pay for the operation in the form of finished product for wear. It required about one day's time to make a pair of shoes, after the leather was processed. The lasts on which these shoes were shaped were made from maple wood. The upper parts and the soles were fastened together with pegs. It is interesting to hear a man tell how he cut maple blocks the length of the desired peg, and with a large pocket knife split from this block a thin strip, and then sharpened or shaved off the two sides to form a small V-shaped point. He then, without difficulty, cut this into pegs for shoe-making. These pegs were usually made at night around the fireside.



More time was necessary for making a pair of boots since the leather for the upper portion had to be crimped. This crimping was done by shaping a board into much the same form as the shape of the foot and the instep, and stretching the leather over this until it became crimped into shape. It generally took three days to make a pair of boots.

Shoes usually sold for one dollar a pair, depending upon the quality of leather and whether or not they were lined with deer or with sheepskin. One pair generally lasted for a year. Boots sold for three dollars and a half to four dollars a pair and some which were made from French calfskin sold for eight dollars or more.

Tools necessary for shoemaking were usually a broadfaced hammer and a shoe knife. These instruments were fashioned by hand in the home blacksmith shop.

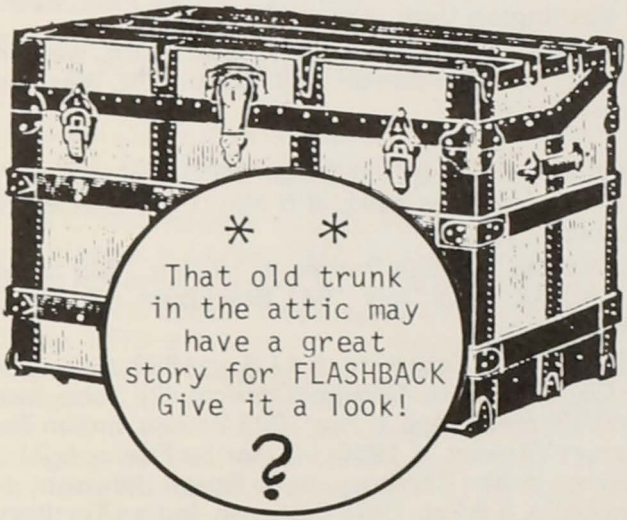
Such products as resulted from the skill of the shoemaker, together with the wool hose knit by the housewife from thread of her own spinning, made up the necessary footwear for the family.

There were many other persons who practiced the craft of shoemaking whose account of this craft was similar to the one given by Mr. Campbell.

Thrift in Shoe-Making. Some very interesting facts have grown out of the inquiry regarding the thrift practice of making shoes at home.

According to old account books and ledgers of the fifties and sixties, leather already tanned sold for three dollars a side. One side of leather would cut six or more pairs of shoes, depending upon the size. Finished shoes sold for an average of one dollar and a half per pair. Wages for men's labor were fifty and seventy-five cents per day. Producing the leather, tanning it, and making the family supply of shoes was much more a saving than working two or three days at such labor, for instance as splitting rails, clearing land or cutting wood, to pay for one pair of shoes.

Other interesting facts reveal that one man received fourteen dollars and a half for five sides of bridle leather. Bridles sold for one dollar and a half and one dollar and sixty cents. Tanners in general estimate a dozen bridles in a side of leather. Taking into consideration the price of the bits used in the bridle, the labor in making, and the scarcity of money it was better to make and sell shoes rather than to buy them.



Genealogy Tables

BYRUM FAMILY

Compiled by Dorothy Byrum Keck

—I

1. Dorothy May Byrum, b 26 Feb 1920 Sapulpa OK, m 23 June 1940 McPherson KS to Irvin Sterling Keck (he b 22 Nov 1916 Oketo KS).

   4 children: (1) Karen Sylvia, b 28 Nov 1941 Ft. McMurray, Alberta, Canada, m to Carl Merril Lovendahl (3 children: Kerril Sylvia, b 3 Sept 1961; Carl Derril, b 16 Aug 1963; Daren Sue, b 11 Jan 1966); (2) Marilyn Sue, b 11 Nov 1944 Independence MO, m to Ronald Clifford Price, Topeka KS (4 children: Michael Sterling, b 30 May 1964; Ronna Lee Ann, b 1 Sept 1967; Andrew Clifford, b 22 Sept 1969; Marilee Sue, b 31 Jan 1971); (3) Beverly Ann, b 21 Feb 1950 Topeka KS, m to Gary Prentiss Meyer (no children; Beverly is in medical school); (4) Susan Lee, b 18 Apr 1951 Topeka KS, m to Wm John Kramer (2 children: Julie Kay, b 7 Nov 1973; Amy Renee', b 11 Nov 1976).

   Brothers of Dorothy May Byrum: Edward Isaac, b 26 Sept 1917 Hartshorne OK; Charles Ray, b 13 Aug 1925 Toledo OH, d 13 Jan 1950.

—II

2. John Isaac Byrum, b 10 Feb 1894 Choctaw Nation, Indian Territory, m 21 May 1917 Pitkin AR, d Sept 1950 Rogers AR, bur Mt. Washington Cem, Kansas City MO.
3. Sylvia May Davis, b 20 Jan 1896 Blackburn, Washington Co., AR, d 25 Nov 1949 Kansas City MO, bur Mt. Washington Cem, Kansas City MO.

—III

4. Albert Joseph Byrum, b 3 Mar 1866 Jenny Lind, Sebastian Co. AR, m 11 July 1891, d 6 May 1950 Blackburn AR, bur Blackburn Cem.
5. Mary Martha Lucretia Barnes, b 18 Nov 1869 Salem, Sebastian Co., AR, d 15 July 1941 Blackburn AR, bur Blackburn Cem.

   10 children: (1) Texa Ione, b 11 Aug 1892 Jenny Lind, Sebastian Co. AR, m to George Owings; (2) John Isaac (No. 2 above); (3) Maud Mae, b Apr 1896 Poteau, Indian Territory, m to Harvey Stewart, d 1950; (4) Martha Filena, b 21 July 1898 Cameron, Indian Territory, m to Rosell Johnson, d 1971; (5) Annie Belle, b 8 Feb 1901 Cameron, Indian Territory, m (1) to

Sylvester Clark, m (2) to Jasper Holden, d 1976; (6) Dewey Edward, b 1903 Blackburn, Washington Co. AR, d 1903; (7) James Garfield, b 26 Oct 1904 Blackburn, AR, m to Pearl Hayes; (8) Alice Lee, b 19 Mar 1907 Blackburn AR, m to Vernon Gragg; (9) Mamie Ethel (Dixie), b 17 July 1909 Blackburn AR, m (1) to Paul Lane, m (2) to Val Butters, m (3) to John Herron; (10) Linzie Lloyd, b 12 May 1912 Blackburn, AR, d 1 Aug 1977, married? no children, served in WW II.

6. John Nathan Davis, b 26 Apr 1870 Blackburn, Washington Co. AR, m 17 Feb 1895, d 13 July 1954, Pawhuska, OK.
7. Viola C. Southern, b 10 May 1874 Winslow, Washington Co. AR, d 29 Jan 1930 Blackburn AR, bur Oak Grove Cem, Washington Co. AR.

2 children: Sylvia May (#3 above); Beulah Pearl, m to _____ Mannon.

—IV

8. John Marion Byrum, b 21 May 1838 Madison Co. KY, ma 11 Mar 1856-58 Greenwood AR, d 23 Feb 1909 Blackburn AR. Co. E, 1st Reg. Arkansas Cavalry — Civil War.
9. Filena A. Coy, b Feb 1840 IL, d 1910 Blackburn AR.
10. Luke Barnes, b 1849 Sebastian Co. AR, m 1868 AR, d 1874 Hartford, Sebastian Co. AR.
11. Martha Workman, b 1849 MO, d 27 Feb 1916 Hartshorne OK.
12. Thomas Jefferson Davis, b 12 Mar 1845 White River, Washington Co. AR, m 13 Feb 1868, d 2 Sept 1918 Blackburn, Washington Co. AR, bur Blackburn Cem. Co. A, 1st Arkansas Cavalry, Civil War.
13. Nancy Ann Caughman, b 15 Jan 1852 Winslow, Washington Co. AR, d 30 Apr 1941 Blackburn, Washington Co. AR, bur Blackburn.

14 children: (1) Paulina Catherine, b 8 Nov 1868 Washington Co. AR, m 1 Jan 1888 to Jess Rickman, d 3 Jan 1928; (2) John Nathan, b 26 Apr 1870, Washington Co., AR, m 17 Feb 1895 to Viola C. Southern, d 13 July 1954, bur Pawhuska OK; (3) Sarah LaDocia, b 24 Mar 1872 Washington Co., AR, d 16 Nov 1949; (4) Rebecca, b 3 May 1873 Washington Co. AR, d 5 Oct 1874, bur Falls Creek, Washington Co. AR; (5) William Isaac, b 15 Jan 1875 Washington Co. AR, m to Nora _____, bur Tahlequah OK; (6) Seaborn Lilburn, b 13 Mar 1877 Washington Co. AR, m to Molly Winn, d 9 July 1952, bur Vancouver WA; (7) Benjamin Cornelius, b 19 Nov 1878 Washington Co. AR, m to Esma _____, d 20 Jan 1970, bur North Platte NE; (8) James Harvey, b 6 Nov 1880 Washington Co., AR, m to Emma _____, bur CA; (9) Mary Elizabeth, b 9

Feb 1883 Washington Co. AR, m to James Parrish, d 29 Mar 1959, bur Washington Co. AR; (10) George Nelson, b 19 Jan 1886 Washington Co. AR, d 29 July 1959, bur Van Nuys CA; (11) Edward N., b 28 May 1887 Washington Co., AR; (12) Earnest, b 24 Mar 1891 Washington Co. AR, m to Mary Purser; (13) Lucy, b 24 Feb 1893 Washington Co. AR, "was married Millard Jones," bur West Fork, Washington Co. AR; (14) Walker, b 26 Feb 1897 Washington Co. AR, m to Allie _____ "(deceased)".

14. Stephen Marion Southern, b Apr 1814 VA, m 1862 Lincoln IL, d 1904 Washington Co. AR.

15. Sarah Ann Hudson, b 1824 NC; m (1) to John N. Barnes (he d 29 June 1860), m (2) to Stephen Marion Southern; d 8 Apr 1914 Washington Co. AR, bur Oak Grove Cem AR.

    Stephen Southern had 4 children by 1st marriage to Mary Lambert: James N. Southern, S. Cornelius Southern, Ada Jan Southern (m to _____ Unger), and Frances C. Southern (m to _____ Musgrove).

    Sarah Ann's 4 children by 1st marriage: Joseph W. Barnes, John H. Barnes, Marry Ellen Barnes (m to _____ Scoles), and Martha A. Barnes (m to _____ Moody).

    Stephen Marion Southern and Sarah Ann Hudson had 5 children: (1) Stephen M. C. (Mack), b May 1863 IL, m 18 May 1883 to Nancy E. _____, bur at Blackburn Cem (2 dates given: 1940, 1918); (2) William F., b 1864 IL, m 10 Sept 1885 to Ida Moore, bur at Blackburn Cem (2 dates given: 1931, 1929); (3) Albert, b May 1868 IL; (4) Alberty, b May 1868 IL (Albert and Alberty were twins), m 8 Aug 1883 to Wm. K. Sutton; (5) Viola C., b May 1874 Winslow, Washington Co. AR, m 17 Feb 1895 to John Nathan Davis, d 29 Jan 1930.

—V

16. John Byrum, b 1798 NC.

17. Catherine _____, b 1801 KY.

20. John Barnes, b 29 Aug 1816 MO, m 1838 MS, d 27 July 1884 Pocola, Indian Territory.

21. Mary W. Tucker, b 16 Nov 1827 TGN, d 1911 Wilburton OK.

22. Jerry Workman.

23. Pauline _____.

24. John Nathan Davis, b 17 Mar 1790 VA.

25. Catherine Elkins, b 1 May 1808 NC, d 30 June 1885.

    John Nathan Davis and Catherine Elkins' children: Elizabeth, b 1832 IA; Andres Jackson, b 1833 IL; Sarah, b 1835 IL; John, b 1837 MO; Martha, b 1840 AR; Thomas Jefferson (#12

above), "b 1844 AR"; Nathaniel, b 1849 AR; Washington, b 1851 AR.

26. Nathan Caughman, b 15 May 1792 Bowling Green KY.
27. Matilda Bloyd, b 22 Mar 1807 KY.

Children of Nathan and Matilda Bloyd Caughman: Alfred, b 3 Jan 1826 AR, m to Rachel Anderson; Elizabeth, b 1833 AR, m to Wm. Anderson; Mary, b 20 Jan 1835 AR, m to Zadock Winn; William, b 1840 AR, m to Lea Mannon; Seaborn, b 1843 AR, m to Pauline Dill; Nelson, b 1845 AR, m, killed in Civil War, Battle of Prairie Grove; Taylor Isaac, b 1848 AR; and Nancy Ann (#13 above) "b 15 Jan 1853 AR".

30. John Hudson. NC.
31. Sarah White. NC.

—VI

42. Edward Tucker, b 1803 GA.
43. Nancy Glenn, b 1811 NC.
54. Eli Bloyd, b 25 Apr 1786.
55. Mary Graham, b 5 Dec 1788.

The Tuckers, Glenns, Barnes, have all been found on 1820, 1830 TN census; 1840, 1850, 1860 AR census.

—VII

84. Robert Tucker.
86. John Glenn.
87. Abigail Rogers.
108. William Bloyd.
109. Barsheba Lord.
110. Peter Graham.
111. Nancy _____.

(WCHS has not corrected, updated, nor verified the compiler's information.)

BRUNER-BURGESS-LITTERAL-WILSON FAMILY

Compiled by Dorothy Wilson

—I

1. Bobby G. Wilson, b 5 Nov 1925 Robinson, Benton Co. AR; m Dorothy Lea Ware 14 Apr 1951.

—II

2. James Oliver Wilson, b 23 Jan 1883 near Highfill AR, d 1979.
3. Virginia Etta Bruner, b 8 Apr 1889 at Robinson, m 1 Feb 1908, d 1969, both bur Yell Cem. at Robinson AR.

—III

4. William Arch Wilson, b 10 Dec 1859 near Highfill AR, d 1920.
5. Charity Angeline Estell, b 9 Oct 1863 Clinton MO, m 9 Oct 1879 Benton Co. AR, d 1937, both bur Yell Cem.
6. Daniel Lanning Bruner, b 1 Aug 1841 Monroe Co. IN, d 1893.
7. Penelope Jane Litteral, b 20 Oct 1843 (probably Meigs Co.) TN, m 13 Feb 1870 by Rev. M. Thornsberry (for whom Thornsberry Campground in Washington Co. is named), d 1911, both bur Yell cem.

—IV

8. Richard Alfred Wilson, b 14 Aug 1835 (prob. Bedford Co.) TN.
9. Martha E. "Tide" Wilson, b 1836 TN, bur unmarked grave in small cem. on Holland Farm hill (near Thornsberry Campground Cem.) on old road to Wager. Richard 2nd m Sarah Collins. Both bur Yell.
10. Alfred Estell, b 24 Feb 1821 KY, d 1911 Greenfield MO.
11. Elizabeth Pollyann Hensinger, b 22 Nov 1822 VA, d 1864 Clinton MO.
12. Elias Bruner, b 16 Mar 1797 Shenandoah Co. VA, d 1870, unmarked grave first row behind Thornsberry Church, with two sons.
13. Matilda Williams Butcher, b 1 Jan 1809 TN, d 1874, bur Yell Cem.
14. James Litteral, b 1801 in NC or VA (father & mother both b VA on 1880 census) came to AR in 1846, original land entries in 1857 and 1860 in area of present Litteral Township, Washington Co. AR, probably named after him. He and wife bur at Mt. Comfort Cem. He d 1882.
15. Ruhama Weltz, b 1801 in TN, (father b Germany, mother b PA), d 1886.

    Children of James and Ruhama Litteral: (1) Susan Narcissus "Sukie", m Benjamin Franklin Pollock (had original land entries in Washington Co AR also); (2) Elizabeth "Liz", m George W. Sparks (original land entries); (3) Jacob "Jake", m Adelia Anna Hatcher (had mines in SW MO); (4) Penelope Jane, m Daniel L. Bruner (#6); Sarah, m "Fete" Mason ("lived Van Buren"); (5) James, m Margaret Bonham (lived Wala Wala, WA)

—V

16. Archelous Wilson, b 6 Aug 1806 NC, d July 1889, bur Thornsberry Cem.

17. Sarah Minerva Burgess, b 25 Sept 1812 TN, d Aug 1889, bur Thornsberry Cem. Washington Co. AR (See Spring 1980 Benton Co. AR Historic Society *Pioneer* for this Wilson family history.)
18. James Wilson, b ca. 1805 SC.
19. Nancy _____, b ca. 1809 SC. Both bur small cem. on present Gerald Bell farm just west of Washington Co. AR line on Hwy. 68 west.
20. Thomas Estell, b KY (from son Alfred's Death Certificate)
21. Caroline Wiggins, b KY (from son Alfred's Death Certificate)
24. Jacob Bruner, b 1763 Frederick Co., MD.
25. Margaret Cline, b 1764 Frederick Co., MD (see Oct 1969 and summer 1980 *Pioneer* for Bruner Family)

—VI

34. Richard Burgess, b 1782 NC, d 1861 AR, bur Thornsberry Cem.
35. Elizabeth _____, b 1792 NC, d 1848 AR, bur Thornsberry Cem.
48. Peter Bruner, b 1724 at Klein Schifferstadt, Germany.

(WCHS has not corrected, updated, nor verified the compiler's information.)

(Queries, Cont. from page 9)

JONES - I am interested in learning more about the James Franklin Jones family of Washington County. His wife was Louisa and one of their eleven (?) children was Martha A. Jones. Was she a sister to the outlaw "Jones Boys" associated with Frank and Jessie James? Martha Jones was born 20 August 1858 in Prairie Grove. Contact: Ken Laymon, 24342 Bostwick Dr., Sunnymead CA 92388.

HORTON, PORTIS, SHREVE, KING, McGUIRE - I would like to contact descendants or relatives of the following one time residents of Fayetteville area: Mrs. and Mrs. E.S. Horton, Mrs. Frank Portis, Mrs. Janet Shreve, Madge King, Mrs. Artie McGuire. Contact: Miss Ella Louise May, 2204 Lester Dr., N.E. 404, Albuquerque, NM 87112.

MASTERSON, OVERBY, PAGE, HAMLET, HALL - I need information on John Masterson, b 1836, m Mary Catherine Overby, b 1842, KY. Resided in your area late 1800's. Also Samuel Page, b 1821 GA, m Eliza Jan Hamlet; their son William Henry Page, b 1850 Kingston, AR, m Amanda Jane Hall. Contact: Mrs. Donna Bottini, 8853 Grand, Beulah, CO 81023.

GRABILL PHOTO, FAIR DAY, 1913

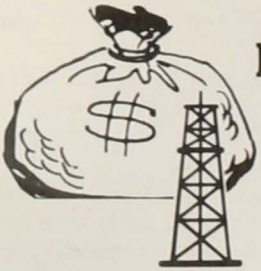
Mrs. Ralph Corkrum (Cornelia Nettleship) sent the following Grabill photo of a decorated car and its passengers on Fair Day, 1913.

Names written on the back of photo: Mr. Prichard, driver; Cornelia Nettleship; Mary Gilespie; Margaret Conner; Frances Bates; Haseltine Schaff; Frances ??; Lela Hansard; Ruth Wolf; Leon Avey; Carrie Collins; Dorothy McRoy; Dixie Williams; Ruth Mason; Mary Frances Cannon.

Book Notes

Phillip Steel has donated a copy of *The Roberts Family* to the Society. The book covers many descendants in our area. Mr. Steele reports copies are available from Randall Roberts for $8.00 per copy.

Another recent addition to our collection is *The Laymon Family* which covers the Parks, Colliers, Prathers, Bakers, Bennetts, Grisso and others. The book is a thorough and interesting work. Copies may be had from Kenneth Laymon, 24342 Bostwick Drive, Sunnymeade, California 92388 for $14.00 per copy.



Lincoln's Oil Boom·

Burlene Hilton, Researcher ·
Ruth H. Paye, Writer

Fifty years ago Lincoln was a small but self-sustained town supported by agricultural products and several small businesses. There were two doctors, a dentist, a small hospital, hotel, and stores of various kinds. It had everything it needed and if the town was poor, it didn't know it and was content to be what it was.

Then, when the magic word "oil" was circulated around it produced a visionary aspect of what might be. Lincoln had its one get-rich-quick opportunity — and missed. This happened in the spring of 1929, the year the Wall Street crash preceded the unforgettable drought-depression years and folks must have looked back in regret at what might have been when they saw dying trees hung with wizened apples and fields reduced to stubble by hot dry wind.

No one knows why exactly, but all informants agree it must have all started when Charlie King drilled a well to supplement the water he was using from Judge King's fine spring for his canning factory and got "funny" water. His canning factory was just north of where the oil-gas test well was later drilled on the present site of the Lincoln Supply Co., south of 62 Highway. The factory was south of the depot, near enough for easy loading of freight cars.

There was a peculiarity about the water truck that indicated it might be tainted with oil; also the soil in that area was typical oil soil. Oil! Could Lincoln ever be so lucky? Visions of derricks pumping black gold into the small town's coffers and all the good things it might bring, raced through the minds of citizens as they stood on street corners and talked it up.

A Mr. Ellis, retired oil man from Texas, headed a group including Alf Wright and his mother, Mrs. Mariah Wright from Texas; a Mrs. Blood; Olva Glidewell; H.C. Richey; and others whose names are not recalled, to investigate the prospect for oil. They called a geologist known only as Captain Alley, from Eureka Springs to test the soil. He agreed that it had elements indicative of oil and a company was formed with Mr. Ellis and President and H.C. Richey as Secretary-Treasurer. The company's papers were inherited by H.C. Richey's sons, Cecil and Harry, and had they not destroyed them when they

* Excerpt from an article in the *Lincoln Leader*.

closed their lumber yard they could have contributed more information.

Mr. Ellis, having acquaintances in Tulsa, Okla. and area, with Olva Glidewell, went there and sold $10,000 worth of shares. Mr. Ellis then went to Texas where he sold more shares. Alf Wright and his mother as well as others in the area invested in the company.

The company of Bokley Shields and Don Baker, from Tulsa, were employed and they set their rig and went to work, with the enthusiastic approval of the citizens. A log of the depth reached was kept each day and the type of soil encountered. Mr. Glidewell says a vein of coal was discovered in progress; it was about six feet thick and he thinks it might be found in a nearby valley. Graham Wright, son of Alf Wright, says that quite a lot of his mountain land was leased as the drilling continued and the signs of oil were still favorable.

At last some gas and oil was said to be found but some of the people doubted it. Several spectators were gathered about the scene when one of them decided there was one sure way to prove it. An item from *The Lincoln Sun,* dated April 17th, 1929, says that the depth was 450 feet in a limestone formation and that, "One of our good citizens should be so thankful he still has his eyesight as not to be offended when we mention the loss of his hair and eyebrows when he experimented too closely with the business end of our gas pipe at the oil derrick."

When asked about this incident, Mr. Glidewell claimed to have been an eye witness. Lew Haws had lit a match to see if gas was really there. It was. It blew his hat off and singed his hair and eyebrows.

Report was that they had reached a depth of more than 1400 feet when, suddenly, the money was all gone. No more was forthcoming and the oil company, still believing that oil was there, reluctantly pulled their rig and departed. For many years afterward, after a heavy rain, when water stood on the ground, gas still bubbled from the well, as if to remind the townspeople of what might have been.

NOTE TO OUR MEMBERS:

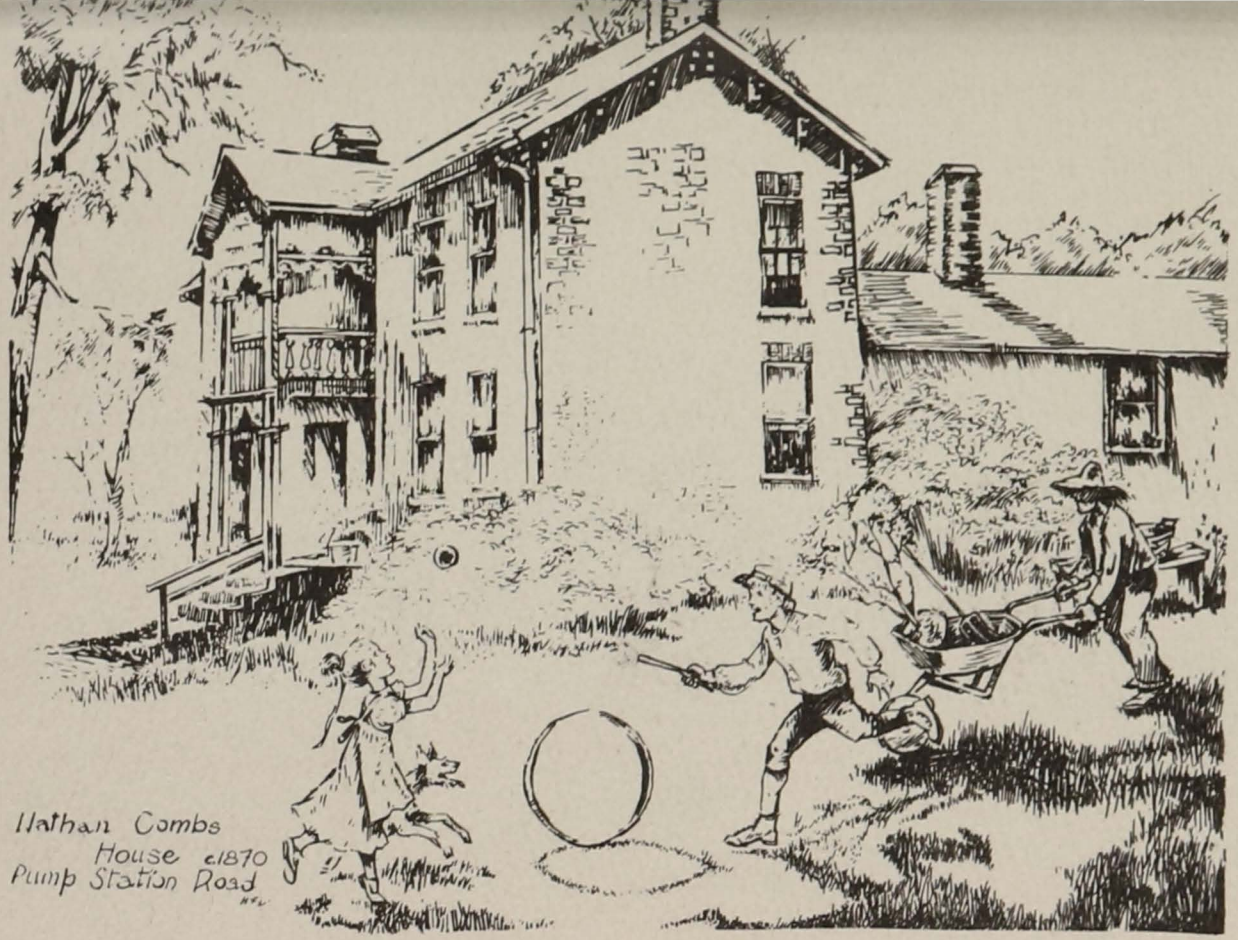
We have completely run out of the May 1979 issue of *Flashback* and are still getting requests for it. If you are not binding and keeping your issues, it would be most helpful if you could return that particular number to us!

Did you hear about Elmira Heathcliff?

YES!! She hasn't yet renewed her membership in the Washington County Historical Society!!

I don't think she's aware of what she'll be missing.

Oh, Dear!


Nathan Combs
House c1870
Pump Station Road